

2016 Spring Schedule

Warner Park Nature Center is open Tuesday-Saturday:
9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Percy and Edwin Warner Parks are open 7 days a week from sunrise to 11 p.m.

Mailing Address:

Warner Park Nature Center
7311 Highway 100
Nashville, TN 37221

Phone: 615-352-6299

Fax: 615-880-2282

Email: wpnc@nashville.gov

Web: [www.nashville.gov/
Parks-and-Recreation/Nature-
Centers-and-Natural-Areas/
Warner-Park-Nature-
Center.aspx](http://www.nashville.gov/Parks-and-Recreation/Nature-Centers-and-Natural-Areas/Warner-Park-Nature-Center.aspx)

Requests for ADA assistance should be directed to the Nature Center by calling 615- 352-6299.



Friends of Warner Parks:

615-370-8053

www.friendsofwarnerparks.com



A Time for Discovery in Warner Parks



MARCH

Photos courtesy of Deb Beazley

Sampling Trees & Engaging Math to Explore Forest Ecology

Friday, March 4
8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Age level: Adults
Call or register online



Join the TN Division of Forestry as we explore and compare a secondary growth forest with an undisturbed ("old growth") forest. Teachers will measure trees with simple classroom tools, use mathematical grids to sample forest plots and have the opportunity to hike in the beautiful Hill Forest, a newly-designated State Natural Area. This experiential workshop will help educators develop a deeper understanding of forest ecology.

Leaders: Kim Bailey with Dave Walters and Neil Owens, TN Division of Forestry

Spring StoryWalk® Reveal

Saturday, March 5
Age level: All ages
Registration not required

It's time to reveal our new StoryWalk® book! Bring your little ones and discover what story we have picked out for spring! This is an "on your own" activity along the Little Acorn trail.

Coordinator: Rachel Koch

Weed Wrangle

Saturday, March 5
9 a.m.-noon

Age level: Adults, 13+
Call to register

Join the city-wide effort to protect native species and help combat the spread of invasive exotic pest plants. Learn more about how these plants threaten the native ecosystem as we work to restore the natural integrity of the forest. Check out <http://www.invasiveplantcontrol.com/weedwrangle/nashville/index.html> for more information. Leaders: Paul Fowler, Garden Club of Nashville, and Volunteers



weed wrangle™
NASHVILLE



Furry Friends

Saturday, March 5
10-11:30 a.m.

Age level: All ages
Registration opens
February 19

Come meet some fascinating mammals using our stuffed animal collection in the museum. Then head out for a hike to look for tracks and signs of their presence along the trail. Leader: Kim Bailey

Break a Bat, Plant a Tree

Saturday,
March 5
1-4 p.m.



Age level: Adults,
13+
Call or register
online

Friends of Warner Parks will be joining the Nashville Sounds and TWRA to plant a tree for every broken bat during this past season. We'll be following up the removal of invasives with tree planting along the river. Leaders: Paul Fowler, Pandi English (TWRA) and representatives of the Nashville Sounds

Hill Forest Hike

Thursday, March 10
10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Age level: Adults, 13+
Registration opens
Feb 24

Come prepared for a rugged rocky hike on the Hill Forest as we look for signs of spring! Leaders: Kim Bailey and Rachel Anderson

Organic Gardening: Preparing for Summer

Friday, March 11
9-10:30 a.m.

Age level: Adults, 13+
Call or register online

Now is the time to start planning (and planting) your summer garden seeds! Bring your gardening questions and learn how to grow a healthy garden without the use of chemicals. Leader: Deb Beazley

Stayin' Alive

Saturday, March 12
10-11 a.m.

Age level: All ages
Registration opens
February 26

Winter is almost over! Join the naturalist to discover the birds, squirrels, chipmunks, and other animals that survived the cold. Leader: Heather Gallagher

Branching Out: New Works Celebrating Warner Parks by Brenda Stein

Opening Reception
Saturday, March 12
3-5 p.m.

*Exhibition runs
March-May*



Nashville woodturner and public artist Brenda Stein is a longtime friend of Warner Parks, citing it as a treasured place for inspiration, education, exercise, catching up with friends, reflection and renewal. She is thrilled to bring all new works to this show, many of which hail from our beloved Warner Park trees. You can literally take a piece of the park home with you in one of her sought after bowls or one of her newest creations inspired by the magic of Warner Parks. The widest selection of artwork will be available at the opening reception, with a portion of all proceeds benefiting the Nature Center. Coordinators: Vera Vollbrecht and Brenda Stein

Homeschool Journeys: Coyotes



Thursday, March 17
10 a.m.-noon OR
1:30-3:30 p.m.

Age level: 5-13 years
Registration opens
March 2- ONLINE
REGISTRATION ONLY

Coyotes are elusive animals that live across North America, and even in Warner Parks. Learn about the ways of coyotes: what they eat, where they sleep, and when and how to best observe them during this natural science program offered for homeschool students. Leaders: Nature Center Staff & Volunteers

Budding Naturalists: Puddles and Polliwogs



Friday, March 18
10-11 a.m.

Age level: 3-5 years
Registration opens
March 3



Let's get outside! Springtime beckons for exploration and there are so many fascinating things to investigate. Explore interesting things at the pond, the wildflower garden, and maybe even beyond during this nature investigation designed for young children. Leader: Rachel Koch



Cemeteries of Warner Parks	Saturday, March 19 8:30 a.m.-noon	Age level: Adults, 13+ Registration opens March 4		Warner Park land has an amazingly rich history, beginning with Belle Meade Plantation fields and including WPA structures. Join us to walk and ride through the hills of the Parks to discover the nine historic cemeteries that exist here. Leader: Heather Gallagher
Kite Making	Saturday, March 19 10-11:30 a.m.	Age level: All ages Registration opens March 4		The March winds are blowing! Would you like to make and fly your own kite? During this hands-on program you will create, build, and fly your own kite. Leader: Melissa Donahue
Waterthrush Walk	Tuesday, March 22 8:30-10 a.m.	Age level: All ages Call or register online		Join us for an “early bird” bird walk to see some of the first migrants arrive from Central and South America! We hope to see and hear Louisiana waterthrushes, eastern phoebes, purple martins, and more. Beginner bird watchers and all ages welcome. Leader: Sandy Bivens and Bird Education Volunteers
Tracking Toads	Tuesday, March 22 10-11:30 a.m.	Age level: 6-12 years Registration opens March 8		Toads and other amphibians are congregating at ponds, rivers, and wetlands to mate and lay eggs. Explore the life cycles and habitats of these interesting amphibians. Leaders: Nature Center Staff and Volunteers
Percy Warner Full Moon Hike	Wednesday, March 23 7-8:30 p.m.	Age level: All ages Registration opens March 8		Join us for a hike under the full moon to Luke Lea Heights for a view of downtown Nashville. Enjoy a walk and experience the park in the dark. Leaders: Kim Bailey & Melissa Donahue
Going Mobile	Thursday, March 24 10 a.m.-noon	10 a.m.-noon Age level: 6-12 years	 	Let’s get mobile! We can hike the trails, creating natural art along the way. When we return to the Nature Center we will use natural material to make nature mobiles. Leaders: Nature Center Staff and Volunteers
Yummy Geology!	Friday, March 25 10-11:30 a.m.	Age level: 6-12 years Registration opens March 8		Become a Junior Geologist as we learn about and explore the rocks and fossils. We’ll return from our adventure and create edible treats to learn about plate tectonics, sedimentation, and more! Leaders: Nature Center Staff and Volunteers
Early Spring Walk	Saturday, March 26 10 a.m.-noon	Age level: All ages Registration opens March 11		Wildflowers blooming, birds chirping, and trees leafing all tell us that spring is here. Let’s walk the Old Roadway to discover the many signs of spring. Leader: Heather Gallagher
Spring Clean	Saturday, March 26 1-4 p.m.	Age level: All ages Call or register online		Team up with Friends and fellow Park lovers to canvas the park’s trails, picnic areas, roadways and open spaces. You can help us get this great place clean, green and ready for spring. Leader: Paul Fowler
Citizen Science: Amphibian Monitoring in Warner Park	Wednesday, March 30 7-8:30 pm	Age level: Adults, 13+ Registration opens March 15		Join the “froglogging” team and learn how to distinguish between frog calls while contributing to citizen science. We will have a brief overview of common frog calls and the Frog Watch program; then head out to listen to frogs and practice our new skills. Leaders: Kim Bailey and Melissa Donahue

**Wildflower Walking
with Naturalist
Deb Beazley**

Thursday, March 31,
Saturday, April 2, OR
Friday, April 8
9 a.m.-noon

Age level: Adults, 13+
Call or register online

Enjoy the beautiful spring woods full of wildflowers!
Learn folklore, identification, growing tips, herbal
uses, and fun facts.
Leader: Deb Beazley



APRIL

**Wild in the
Woods**

Saturday, April 2
11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Age level: All ages
Registration opens
March 18

Build a nature fort, swing from the
grapevines, scramble down a fallen log, dig a burrow
under the leaves and enjoy being wild in the woods!
Leader: Rachel Anderson

**Burch
Reserve
Excursion**

Thursday,
April 7
4:30-6 p.m.



Age level: 8 years
and up
Call or register online

Spring is here, wildflowers are in full bloom, birds
are nesting, and the trees are beginning to show their
leaves. Explore the Burch Reserve and the plants and
animals that call this special place home.
Leader: Melissa Donahue

**Budding
Naturalists:
Dirt
Discovery**

Friday, April 8
10-11 a.m.



Age level: 3-5 years
Registration opens
March 24

What do you get when you mix a little organic
material with worms? Dirt of course! Join us at the
Nature Center to discover what is really in the dirt
during this nature investigation designed for young
children.
Leader: Melissa Donahue

Colors of Spring

Saturday, April 9
10-11 a.m.

Age level: All ages
Registration opens
March 25

Join the naturalist to explore the forest in spring. A
rainbow of colors await us!
Leader: Heather Gallagher

**Hike to Larkspur Hill
with Larkspur
Conservation**

Friday, April 15
10-11:30 a.m.



Age level: Adults, 13+
Call or register online

Join us on a hike in Percy Warner to see the striking
purple blooms of larkspur. Along the way learn about
Larkspur Conservation, a non-profit inspired by this
exquisite spring ephemeral and dedicated to the
stewardship of our natural environment through
earth friendly funeral and burial practices. We will
revel in a beautiful spring day as we explore a unique
way to support the environment.
Leaders: Kim Bailey and John Christian Phifer,
Executive Director of Larkspur Conservation

**Birding for
Beginners**



Friday, April 15
9 -11:30 a.m.

Age level: 9 years
and up
Call or register online

If you are ready to expand your enjoyment of birds
beyond your feeders but are not sure how to begin,
this is the class for you. We'll begin with an overview
of binoculars, field guides and helpful apps. Study
skins will be available for viewing the variety of bird
groups, shapes and sizes that may be encountered
outdoors. After this intro, we'll head to the trail to
enjoy the songs and look for the many avian offerings
the park has to offer. A lifetime of enjoyment can
begin today!
Leaders: Volunteer Naturalist Kathy Shaw and Bird
Education Volunteers

Nesting Material

Saturday, April 16
10-11 a.m.

Age level: All ages
Registration opens
April 1

Join the naturalist to hunt for nests in the trees and
on the ground; then we'll build nests of our own.
Leader: Heather Gallagher

**Spring
Star
Party**



Saturday, April 16
7:30-9:30 p.m.

Age level: All ages
Call or register online

Meet at the Special Events Field in Edwin Warner
Park to view planets, nebula, star clusters and more
through telescopes and binoculars.
Leaders: Heather Gallagher, Barnard-Seyfert
Astronomical Society, and Sudekum Planetarium

**Homeschool
Journeys: Mice**

Thursday, April 21
10 a.m.-noon OR
1:30-3:30 p.m.

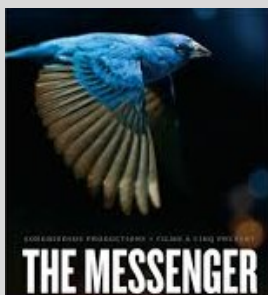
Age level: 5-13 years
Registration opens
April 6- ONLINE
REGISTRATION ONLY

Mice are all around us: in our homes, our storage
barns, and in the field. Let's learn about these
amazing rodents during this natural science program
offered for homeschool students.
Leaders: Nature Center Staff and Volunteers

Explore the Pond	Saturday, April 23 10-11 a.m.	Age level: All ages Registration opens April 8	Spring is the perfect time to explore the pond. We'll provide the tools for you to investigate the tadpoles, algae, and dragonfly nymphs that call the pond home. Leader: Heather Gallagher
Muddy Buddies	Saturday, April 23 10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Age level: Adults Call to register	Are you ready to get dirty? Join the crew for a little wet work to improve the trails. With some help from our friends, we'll tackle some of the messier areas and work to improve the hiking experience for everyone. Leader: Paul Fowler

Spread Your Wings! Catch the film about bird conservation, contribute to the state-wide bird count, and join the festivities on Saturday at the Spring Bird Festival. All programs are free and open to the public; check individual listings for time, date, and registration.

The Messenger: A Documentary to Save Songbirds	Thursday, April 28 7 p.m.	Age level: Adults, 13+ Call or register online	Can you imagine a world without birdsong? THE MESSENGER is an artful investigation into the causes of songbird mass depletion and the compassionate people who are working to turn the tide. The film takes viewers on a visually stunning, emotional journey revealing how the issues facing birds also pose daunting implications for our planet and ourselves. Suggested \$10 donation at the door to support the Nature Center's Bird Research and Education program. Sponsored by: Warner Park Nature Center and Friends of Warner Parks
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Spring Bird Count	Saturday, April 30 7-11 a.m.	Age level: Adults, 13+ Call or register online	The Nashville Chapter of the TN Ornithological Society will be conducting its Spring Bird Survey in Warner Parks. Participants will contribute bird observations and numbers to over 100 years of ongoing bird research in the Parks. Leaders: NTOS Members and Volunteers
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Spring Bird Festival and International Migratory Bird Day	Saturday, April 30 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (bird banding from 10-2) Age level: All ages Registration not required		"Spread Your Wings" and celebrate birds during this fun-filled festival highlighting spring migrants, bird research, and bird conservation. Participants may observe bird banding research between 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and then throughout the day enjoy games, crafts, puppet shows and more. For more information about International Migratory Bird Day, go to www.birdday.org . Leaders: Nature Center Staff, the Bird Banding Team, and Volunteers
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Budding Naturalists: Creek Exploration	Friday, May 6 10-11 a.m.	Age level: 3-5 years Registration opens April 21	The creek is flowing with interesting things to investigate! Wear your boots or wading shoes and come explore the treasures of the creek during this nature investigation designed for young children. Leader: Kim Bailey
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MAY

Beginning Bicycle Workshop with Gran Fondo

Saturday,
May 7
9-11 a.m.



Age level: Adults,
13+
Call or register
online

Calling all beginning bikers: Join the experts from Gran Fondo Trail and Fitness to learn about safe bicycle operation, bike etiquette, and how to ride the roads or mountain bike trails of Warner Park. Bring your bike and all your questions.
Leaders: Melissa Donahue, Gran Fondo, and Gran Fondo Trail and Fitness

Discover Birds in Beautiful Indian Springs	Saturday, May 7 8-10 a.m.	Age level: Adults, 13+ Call or register online	Migratory birds from the tropics are returning, establishing territories and SINGING! We'll be listening and looking for warblers, tanagers, thrushes and other species in a quiet and diverse habitat. Leader: Susan Bradfield, Volunteer Naturalist
Sense of Wonder	Saturday, May 7 1-2 p.m.	Age level: All ages Registration opens April 22	There is so much beauty in the natural world. Let's explore, discover, and compare questions about the fascinating things we see and hear on a May afternoon. Join us at Indian Springs for sauntering along this pristine and tucked away place. Leader: Rachel Koch
Homeschool Journeys: Bluebirds	Thursday, May 12 10 a.m.-noon OR 1:30-3:30 p.m.	Age level: 5-13 years Registration opens April 27- ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY	Bluebirds have been studied in Warner Parks for over 80 years. Learn about bluebird nests, bluebird food, bluebird predators, and more during this natural science program offered for homeschool students. Leaders: Nature Center Staff & Volunteers
Nature Nut Hike with Naturalist Deb Beazley	Friday, May 13 9-11 a.m.	Age level: Adults, 13+ Call or register online	Join Deb on a hike in the woods to explore and enjoy any and everything we might encounter from mushrooms, flowers, ferns, trees, seeds, wildlife, tracks and whatever else we are lucky enough to find on Friday the 13th. Leader: Deb Beazley
Under, Inside and All Around Hike	Friday, May 13 4-5:30 p.m.	Ages: 6 years and up Registration opens April 28	Take a glorious spring hike with your family and explore the late afternoon forest. We'll search for salamanders under the leaf litter, insects inside rotting logs and listen all around for the songs of spring. Leader: Rachel Anderson
The Bees' Knees	Saturday, May 14 11 a.m.-noon	Age level: All ages Registration opens April 29	Honeybees are busy this month collecting nectar, pollinating the garden, and making honey. Learn all about our bees and how they benefit all of us through observation and hands-on activities. Leader: Vera Vollbrecht
Burch Reserve Hike	Tuesday, May 17 2-4 p.m.	Age level: All ages Registration opens April 26	Hike the beautiful hills and ridge-tops of the unopened Burch Reserve of Warner Parks. Leaders: Kim Bailey and Rachel Koch
North American Butterfly Count	Wednesday, May 18 9-11 a.m.	Age level: Adults, 13+ Call or register online	Join us for the May count of the North American Butterfly Association. Gain experience identifying butterflies while contributing to important research. Leaders: Kim Bailey and Melissa Donahue
Budding Naturalists: Explore the Garden	Friday, May 20 10-11 a.m.	Age level: 3-5 years Registration opens May 5	Explore what's growing in the garden and who else might be living there during this nature investigation designed for young children. Leader: Vera Vollbrecht
Full Moon Pickin' Party	Friday, May 20 7-11 p.m.	Age level: All ages Tickets may be purchased through nowplayingnashville.com	Join musicians and music lovers for an evening of bluegrass, delicious food and drink, and FUN for the entire family! All proceeds help protect and preserve the Parks. Coordinators: Friends of Warner Parks
Sounds of Spring Saunter	Saturday, May 21 10-11:30a.m.	Age level: All ages Registration opens May 6	Ever wondered who was making that sound in the woods? Was it a frog, a bird, an insect or maybe a mammal? Let's go exploring and discover who sounds like a rubber band being plucked, who is begging for "cheeseburgers, cheeseburgers, cheeseburgers" and who chatters if we get too close! Leader: Rachel Anderson

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Warner Park
Nature Center

•Call (615) 352-6299 to register for programs•